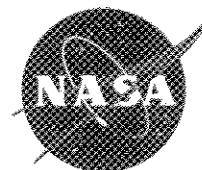


National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



December 15, 2010

Reply to Attn of: General Law Practice Group

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA employees at the Aerospace Industries Association Year-End Review and Forecast Luncheon on December 15, 2010

On December 15, 2010, the Aerospace Industries Association (AIA), a non-profit organization under 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code, is hosting its Year-End Review and Forecast Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, D.C. The AIA President and CEO, Marion Blakey, will deliver statistics about the aerospace industry for 2010 and will forecast the near-term industry outlook.

Approximately 400 people have been invited. The event consists of a reception followed by a luncheon. The estimated cost of the reception and luncheon including all food and beverages is \$45.00 per person. The reception will be attended by representatives of the aerospace industry, the media, and congressional staffers as well as by employees of other Federal agencies. I find that this reception meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g).

I further determine that there is an Agency interest in having NASA personnel attend the event because it will further Agency programs or operations. Attendance at the reception and luncheon will allow NASA representatives to discuss NASA's programs and plans with other attendees. Accordingly, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect AIA or a majority of all of its members may accept an invitation for free attendance to the reception and luncheon for themselves and their spouses or guests.

However, NASA employees who are in non-career positions for which Executive Order 13490 requires signing an ethics pledge may only attend if they reimburse the sponsor the cost of the reception and luncheon for themselves and accompanying guests. Moreover, NASA employees whose duties substantially affect AIA, such as by way of procurement duties, should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 C.F.R. §2635.205(g)(3)(i) regarding participation in this event from their local ethics counselor.

Kathleen T. Apear

for Adam F. Greenstone